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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/562,842	12/29/2005	Clara Lucia Garcia-Rodenas	112701-696	5990

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BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLP
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CHICAGO, IL 60690

EXAMINER

WARE, DEBORAH K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1651

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/17/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATENTS@BELLBOYD.COM

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/562,842

Applicant(s)

GARCIA-RODENAS ET AL.

Examiner

Deborah K. Ware

Art Unit

1651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/28/06.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 are presented for consideration on the merits.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 30, 2007, has been entered.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on September 28, 2006, received and entered of record. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102/103

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Portman (US 6207638).

Claims are drawn to a composition and method(s) for treating conditions associated with diabetes comprising administering whey proteins.

Portman discloses administering a composition and method therefore, for treating conditions associated with diabetes comprising administering whey proteins in a range of 0.03 to 1.00, see columns 7-8, lines 1-10. Also see abstract.

The claims are identical to the teachings of Portman are, therefore, considered to be anticipated by Portman. However, in the alternative that there is some difference between the claims and cited Portman as noted above, for which some unidentified claim characteristic has not been disclosed, the difference is considered to be so slight as to render the claims obvious because whey protein is disclosed to be part of the disclosed composition of the cited prior art. One of skill would have been motivated, therefore, to combine whey protein for treating diabetes. Intact whey protein would have been expected to provide successful results. Thus, the claims are in the alternative rendered prima facie obvious.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed April 30, 2007, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The argument that the only intact whey protein as the protine source is claimed is noted, however, the claims do not necessarily omit other protein sources to be present since "consisting essentially of" language is not closed language. Although Portman does not disclose only intact whey protein per se because other protein may be present it is not deemed persuasive because the claims are not so limited to only intact whey protein by the newly added phraseology "consisting essentailly of" . Applicants claimed method may also include casein because the claims do not specifically omit casein. The Examiner mentioned this point during the interview.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Portman, as cited above in view of **newly cited** Kopf et al (US 6875459).

Claims and Portman are discussed above.

Kopf et al do teach that a fraction can be obtained which is depleted of casein to give yield to intact whey protein (soluble milk protein), see column 4, lines 28-29.

Diabetes can be treated, note column 7, line 16.

The claims may differ from Portman in that intact whey protein is not intrinsically disclosed.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide for a method of treating diabetes as disclosed by Portman and Kopf using intact whey protein since it is well recognized by the cited prior art to have this function. One of skill would have been motivated to select intact whey protein for treating diabetes as well as many other diseases. Each of the dependent claims as noted of record, are disclosed by Portman and to vary ingredients and amounts thereof while selecting intact whey protein is clearly an obvious modification of the cited prior art. Thus, the claims are rendered prima facie obvious.

All claims fail to be patentably distinguishable over the state of the art discussed above and cited on the enclosed PTO-1449 Form and/or PTO-892 Form. Therefore, the claims are properly rejected.


No claims are allowed.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deborah K. Ware whose telephone number is 571-272-0924. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Wityshyn can be reached on 571-272-0926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DEBORAH K. WARE
PATENT EXAMINER

Deborah K. Ware
July 7, 2007